Amendment to the Claims:

Listing of the Pending Claims:

Claims 1-35 (Cancelled)

Claim 36 (Currently Amended) ~~Use of~~ A method of cleaving RNA encoded by a mammalian VEGFr1 gene comprising contacting a double-stranded ~~short-interfering~~ nucleic acid ~~(siNA)~~ molecule ~~to down-regulate expression of a~~ with the RNA encoded by VEGFr1 gene~~, wherein said siNA molecule comprises one or more chemical modifications and~~ under conditions suitable for the cleavage of RNA encoded by the mammalian VEGFr1 gene, wherein:

(a) each strand of ~~said~~ the double-stranded ~~siNA~~ nucleic acid molecule comprises ~~about 21~~ 19-29 nucleotides;

(b) each strand of the double stranded nucleic acid molecule comprises one or more chemical modifications; and

(c) one of the strands of the double stranded nucleic acid molecule is complementary to RNA encoded by the mammalian VEGFr1 gene or a portion thereof and the other strand is complementary to the first strand.

Claim 37 (New) The method according to claim 36, wherein said the double stranded nucleic acid molecule comprises no ribonucleotides.

Claim 38 (New) The method according to claim 36, wherein said the double stranded nucleic acid molecule comprises ribonucleotides.

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Claim 39 (New)	The method according to claim 36, wherein each strand of the double stranded nucleic acid molecule comprises at least about 19 nucleotides that are complementary to the nucleotides of the other strand.
Claim 40 (New)	The method according to claim 39, wherein said the double stranded nucleic acid molecule is assembled from two separate oligonucleotide fragments wherein one fragment comprises a sense region and the second fragment comprises an antisense region and wherein the sense region and antisense region are complementary to each other.
Claim 41 (New)	The method according to claim 40, wherein said sense region is connected to the antisense region via a linker molecule.
Claim 42 (New)	The method according to claim 41, wherein said linker molecule is a polynucleotide linker.
Claim 43 (New)	The method according to claim 41, wherein said linker molecule is a non-nucleotide linker.
Claim 44 (New)	The method according to claim 40, wherein purine nucleotides in the sense region are 2'-O-methyl purine nucleotides.
Claim 45 (New)	The method according to claim 40, wherein purine nucleotides in the sense region are 2'-deoxy purine nucleotides.
Claim 46 (New)	The method according to claim 40, wherein the pyrimidine nucleotides present in the sense region are 2'-deoxy-2'-fluoro pyrimidine nucleotides.

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Claim 47 (New) The method according to claim 40, wherein the fragment comprising said sense region includes a terminal cap moiety at the 5'-end, the 3'-end, or both of the 5' and 3' ends of the fragment comprising said sense region.

Claim 48 (New) The method according to claim 47, wherein said terminal cap moiety is an inverted deoxy abasic moiety.

Claim 49 (New) The method according to claim 40, wherein the pyrimidine nucleotides of said antisense region are 2'-deoxy-2'-fluoro pyrimidine nucleotides

Claim 50 (New) The method according to claim 40, wherein the purine nucleotides of said antisense region are 2'-O-methyl purine nucleotides.

Claim 51 (New) The method according to claim 40, wherein the purine nucleotides present in said antisense region comprise 2'-deoxy- purine nucleotides.

Claim 52 (New) The method according to claim 40, wherein said antisense region comprises a phosphorothioate internucleotide linkage at the 3' end of said antisense region.

Claim 53 (New) The method according to claim 40, wherein said antisense region comprises a glyceryl modification at the 3' end of said antisense region.

Claim 54 (New) The method according to claim 40, wherein each of the two 3' terminal nucleotides of each fragment of the double stranded nucleic acid molecule are 2'-deoxy-pyrimidines.

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Claim 55 (New) The method according to claim 54, wherein said 2'-deoxy-pyrimidine is 2'-deoxy-thymidine.

Claim 56 (New) The method according to claim 36, wherein said the double stranded nucleic acid molecule comprises a first strand having sequence

5'-B CUGAGUUUAAAAGGCACCCTT B-3' (SEQ ID NO: 2185),

and a second strand having sequence

5'-GGGUGCCUUUUAAACUCAGTsT-3' (SEQ ID NO: 2188),

wherein each A, G, C, and U are ribonucleotides, each T is thymidine, s is a phosphorothioate internucleotide linkage, and each B is an inverted deoxyabasic cap moiety.

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